

# THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL.

WILMINGTON, N. C., FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 1856

Resolved, That we recommend to the Democratic citizens in the several election precincts in New Hanover County to organize themselves into Democratic Associations, for the purpose of promoting the principles of Democracy and the Constitution, and of efficient action in support and defence of such principles.

Resolved, That we respectfully recommend to the Democratic citizens of New Hanover County, to hold a County Convention at Long Creek Bridge, on the last Thursday in May next, the 29th, to nominate candidates for the Senate and House of Commons of North Carolina, and to take such other action as the safety of the party may seem to require; and that each election precinct be requested to send three delegates to said Convention, which delegates shall be entitled to cast the same number of votes cast by such precincts for the Democratic candidate at the congressional election in August.

We ask the attention of our Democratic brethren throughout the county of New Hanover to the above resolutions, adopted by the county meeting held at the Court House on the 11th instant. In regard to the first—that urging organization in each election precinct, we think there can be no diversity of opinion, because every body must be aware of the usefulness and necessity of organization for the success of any cause or the carrying out of any purpose, and certainly the object proposed to be effected by the organization of Democratic Associations are such as must meet the views, and accord with the wishes of every Democrat. The promulgation of the principles of Democracy and the Constitution, and efficient action in defence of such principles are precisely what every Democrat desires. We sincerely trust that a movement will be made towards the organization of such Associations in every precinct, not only in this county, but in every other county. Let it be made at once. Let it be made within the week if possible. What is the use of delaying things, the advantages of which all will admit?

The second—the holding of a County Convention should be fully considered and promptly seen to. There are always citizens in every county more or less opposed to conventions, and this county is no exception. But recent events—the advent of a new and insidious foe—the necessity of acting in concert, have, we think, infused a stronger desire for effective organization than has existed among the Democrats of New Hanover for many years, and the same remark will apply to the Democratic party generally. The resolution now under consideration was debated in a Committee on Business, composed of gentlemen from all the precincts in the county, and is the result of their joint deliberations; and, in a very large meeting, was unanimously adopted. We therefore trust that the Democrats in every precinct will seriously go to work at holding meetings to send delegates. The usual place of holding elections in any precinct would seem to be the place indicated as the most public one for holding the meeting for appointing the delegates to the County Convention. We ask of some Democrats in each precinct to ascertain the most suitable and convenient time for holding a meeting there, and forward it to us that we may give public notice of such meeting through the columns of our paper, or in any possible manner assist in the matter, for we have it deeply at heart that the Convention should be the accurate reflex of the sentiments and wishes of the Democrats of New Hanover county, and this can only be the case, by the people taking the matter in hand, consulting among themselves, taking the trouble to attend the primary meetings to send delegates, and seeing that the delegates so sent understand and are prepared to carry out their wishes. Let us be prepared to consult together—to act as one body—to pull together like brethren.

We notice that Mr. Douglas, from the Committee on Territories, in the Senate, has reported a bill authorizing the people of Kansas to form a Constitution and State government, preparatory to admission into the Union, as soon as she shall have ninety-three thousand of population. Of course, the initiatory steps are to be taken by direction of the legal authorities of Kansas, and not the Reeder Free-Solers.

The present population of Kansas is said to be some thirty-five to forty thousand, and an immense increase is confidently anticipated within the coming summer—which, for aught we know, will always be coming and never come. No doubt, a good many people will go, but not so many as people talk about.

Mr. Clayton, in the Senate on the 17th, paid a high compliment to the Administration. He said he was not a partisan of the President, but when our foreign relations were conducted with such signal ability, he was willing to give the administration credit.

By the way, there was a slight sparring in the Senate on Friday last, in which Mr. Douglas handled Mr. Trumbull, his K. N. Abolitionist colleague from Illinois, without gloves, and gave Sumner, of Massachusetts, and others, also a raking. Trumbull, in violation of courtesy and good faith, in Judge Douglas' absence, attacked the Kansas report made by the latter gentleman from the Committee on Territories. It was understood that the discussion of this matter would not be entered upon until Monday. Trumbull, however, under cloak of speaking to a motion to print, made a three hours speech against the report and its author. Towards the close of his remarks Mr. Douglas came in. He replied to his colleague in pretty sharp terms, and in the course of his remarks spoke of Know-Nothings and Abolitionists as being the same, and that Mr. Trumbull had been elected by them. To this Mr. Crittenden took exception. He belonged to the party which Mr. Douglas classed as Abolitionists, and would not be so classed without repelling the aspersion. Mr. Douglas said he spoke of Know-Nothings in Illinois—there Know-Nothingism and Abolitionism went together. Mr. Crittenden might speak for Kentucky. He could speak for Illinois.

An appeal was made to Mr. Douglas to defer his remarks until Monday. He said that pending the discussion of the Kansas Bill a similar appeal had been made, and his courtesy had been abused by those who had taken advantage of the delay to publish in the meantime a libel upon him in the form of an address. He referred to Mr. Sumner and others. He would not trust to them again.

Mr. Sumner bristled up somewhat, but Mr. Douglas re-affirmed his charge with added emphasis.

The House has been talking over the Kansas election case. There is a resolution to empower the Committee on Elections to send to Kansas for persons and papers. This resolution is urged by the Banks-ites, and opposed by all national men, because, composed as that committee is, the persons and papers sent for would be just such as would go farthest to make out a case for the Free-Solers.

Mr. Samuel Caruthers and Mr. Mordecai Oliver, heretofore Whig members of Congress, from Missouri, have come out in addresses to their constituents, reproaching Know-Nothingism, and attaching themselves to the Democratic party.

The Know-Nothing Legislature of Maryland, at present in session at Annapolis, appointed a Selecting Committee, a General Hiss and Miss Patterson, to investigate the charges of illegal detention, &c., &c., made against the nunnery in that State. That committee, composed of members of the order, reports that these charges are unsubstantiated by a single fact.

We find in the Herald of Wednesday a communication signed "Justice," backed up by another signed "Monk," copied from the "Cape Fear Advertiser," of some sixteen years gone by.

This communication, and the references made in it, appear to be drawn out by our remarks in answer to attacks upon the action of the County Court, in the matter of the election of Inspectors. In order to sustain the charge of proscription against the magistrates, "Justice" goes back to 1838 and 1840. We must confess that, in doing so, the author of that communication goes beyond our personal knowledge of local matters in this county, of which we were not then a resident, and, even if we had been, it is hardly probable that we would have taken cognizance of such matters, as we then wanted several years of having arrived at that period when much interest is taken in such things. One thing we do know, and that is, that we have seen and talked with Whig Inspectors within the last seven years, yes, within less time than that, and that the election of such, within a recent period, is a matter of notoriety. No doubt the recent action of the County Court was predicated upon the belief of the magistrates that, in not electing Know-Nothings to office, they were simply excluding those whose obligations to their order or party required of them to exclude all others from office, and who had therefore no right to complain if the poisoned chalice were applied to their own lips.

We never sought any office, and never held any, and, therefore, have no sort of personal interest in such matters. But we are partisans in the fullest sense of the word. We go for a fair chance all round. If Democrats are to be turned out, or kept out, by Know-Nothings, where they have the power, they must expect that the same measure which they mete must be measured out to them again, and that Democrats, when their turn comes, will protect themselves. The town authorities take their course—so be it. We have no more to say. The County Court takes its course—very well. The Democrats simply take up the gauntlet thrown down to them. Who could expect them, or anybody else, to act differently. The issue is made, everybody knows it, and there is no use in grumbling. Suppose the K. N. order were to elect their President, of course every Democrat would be turned out of office. Where they have carried all local election they have done so too. Well, that being the case, the Democrats pay them back in their own coin; and, so far as we know, the Democrats say nothing—make no pledges to the contrary; so long, at least, as local matters are to be made test questions.

But the Know-Nothing party was to cover over all that had passed. It was to have nothing to do with former party divisions, and yet "Justice" goes back sixteen to eighteen years to revive the quarrels and fight the battles of the "dead" Whig party. Certainly this looks, to say the least, somewhat inconsistent—at any rate, at variance with the professions made by the order.

The fact about it is, that political parties will appoint their political friends to public office, and that any party that professes not to do so, must violate its professions, as was abundantly shown after the Presidential contest of 1848. The introduction of this to municipal matters, in this State, at least, dates with the rise of the new Order, and if blame attaches to such introduction, the Order must bear it. As things stand now, it is a fixed fact, and Democrats take it as they find it, and, so far as we know, don't pretend to say that they won't send as good as they get. The Commissioners of town go simply with their Order or party, and are simply chargeable as their party is chargeable, and not as individuals.

The charge of proscription against that order or party, is based upon the fact that it goes beyond the limits of political action, to interfere with things for which men are either not responsible at all, or only responsible to their God. That a Democratic president should choose to entrust the carrying out of his administrative policy to those who believe in and desire the success of such policy, rather than to those who oppose it, is perfectly natural, and it is right; and the same principle in political matters pervades every department of public business, and is recognized as being within the legitimate bounds of political action, and is so acted upon by all parties. But the K. N. order goes beyond this. It says, "you may agree with us in a certain measure or measures of public policy; you may have done your duty as a man, and a citizen, but all that avails you nothing, you don't worship God to suit our notions, and we claim the right to step in between you and your conscience, and to say that unless you come into our rule in that respect, you shall, so far as our power extends, be incapacitated from aspiring to any public trust or office. Or, again, you were not born to suit us. It is true, you were very young when that important event in your history occurred, and although present upon the occasion, it is very questionable whether you have any recollection of the affair, or had any influence in determining where it should come off. It may have been your misfortune to have been born elsewhere, but we will impute it to you as a fault." Upon these two points hang all the law and the prophets of the Order.

That gentlemen may be perfectly honest and sincere in their prejudices, no candid man who has paid any attention to history or to the observance of mankind will for a moment deny; and therefore it would be wrong to deny the possession of such honesty and sincerity to the great body of those who have been drawn into the Know Nothing order or organization. But while this is freely conceded, it by no means follows that the excitement of such prejudices is a fair or proper basis for the organization of a great party aspiring to control the destinies of a great Republic, or that it is in accordance with the genius of the American people, the spirit of their institutions, or the tone of their history, or that it can be productive of good results. Nor can it be believed that any order or party, so based, can long retain the confidence of a free, free-minded and liberal people. Yet such is unquestionably the basis of the Know-Nothing movement. It is, of course, to the general movement that our allusions are directed, and not to those who have been carried off by it.

Mr. Whitaker has laid on our table, "Outlines of Physical Geography," by George W. Fitch, illustrated by Six Maps and Numerous Engravings. New York: J. H. Colton & Co., 172, William Street, 1856. This is a very neatly printed and bound volume, and seems to us well calculated for use in Schools and Colleges.

Also "Mlle Teresa Parodi Grand Concert Book," containing one hundred of the most celebrated Ballads, Songs, etc.; the Italian and English words are given of all Italian pieces. It contains the music of nine pieces.

Also the "Countess of Lascaille; or, Self Sacrifice," by G. W. M. Reynolds.

SEVERE WEATHER.—On Thursday night last had a fall of sleet and snow, continuing from about 10 o'clock in the morning till after 10 at night. On Friday morning the ground was covered to the depth of about an inch. It would probably have been 3 or 4 inches deep but for its melting until after dark. At about 2 o'clock the snow flakes were larger than any we ever saw before. Friday was a beautiful day, and the untimely snow soon disappeared.

[Fay Observer.]

I will now compare the patronage given to North Carolina, with that given to Ireland—Roman Catholic Ireland—and here desire the attention of the Democracy of Wayne. We saw before stated, North Carolina has one Consul, and twenty-one places in the Department at Washington, whilst Ireland has six Consuls and fifty-six places in the Departments. What a contrast! What a commentary on the professions of love for the South, on Franklin Pierce, on his love of justice!

We slip the above from the last Fayetteville Argus. It forms a paragraph in "No. 6" of a series of communications, addressed "to the Democracy of North Carolina," by a correspondent of that paper, writing over the signature of "Richmond." This intelligent and veracious Know-Nothing correspondent totally forgets that North Carolina has a cabinet and two diplomatic appointments, for there is little doubt that it is to North Carolina that Mr. Follen owes his appointment, although he was not a resident of our State at the time.

This is a specimen of the correctness with which these flaming Know-Nothing statements are gotten up. The whole affair may be judged of by this small brick which we have picked from the Babel.

Roman Catholic Ireland has this, that and the other thing. So says "Richmond"—Roman Catholic Ireland has not the first office—not one. No man holds office save as a citizen of the United States, and if "Richmond" is not aware of this, then he must be entitled to the appellation, literally, of a Know-Nothing.

It is usual with statisticians, of the class of "Richmond," to count as office-holders all the laborers, porters, &c., employed about the public offices or grounds, and, therefore, to infer that foreigners rule the United States because Mickey Free wields a spade in the public service, or receives an overwhelming compensation of a dollar or a dollar and a half a day.

Let any man, with his eyes and ears open, go through any of the public offices in Washington city, and he will be convinced that all the stuff talked about is nonsense. Some few natives of foreign countries he may find, upon rigid examination, but the proportion will at once strike him as smaller than in any other business or line of life. Those that he does find, have been citizens of the country, some as long as forty, and, on an average, over twenty years. So that the anxious enquirer will listen in vain for the "rich Irish brogue," or "sweet German accent." Some of them, as Mr. Marmon in the Post-Office Department, are long in the service, and have been reared, under all circumstances and administrations, from their infancy, and, in some measure, their indispensibility, on account of their thorough knowledge of a particular matter or branch of business, as is occasionally the case with gentlemen, native or foreign, totally irrespective of their place of birth. Of the more recent appointments, it will be found that all have been made purely with reference to States or Districts, just the same as though they had been native citizens, and, no doubt, they were recommended by their friends and fellow-citizens, precisely like any other citizens. "Given to Roman Catholic Ireland!" What has the President of the United States got to do with Roman Catholic or Protestant, or this man or that, save as they stand under the constitution which he has sworn to support, and as they are competent to discharge their duties.

We really had thought that the only legal, political character in which the naturalized citizen appeared, was that of United States citizenship—that it was by virtue of such citizenship alone that he could enjoy any political rights or privileges, or that he could hold any office. How, then, appointments could be given to Ireland, or Germany, or elsewhere, we know not, and do not believe that they have been. We don't think any body believes so either.

Accidents and losses of life seem to be the order of the day. No sooner have we got through publishing the details of a terrible disaster on the Portsmouth Road, than the papers bring us the news of the burning of a steam ferry boat on the Delaware River at Philadelphia on Saturday night. The boat took fire in the middle of the river. She was run in and was nearing the wharf, but the tiller chains were disarranged—the head sheered off, and as the fire prevented the Engineer from getting to the engine to stop it, the boat with the few remaining passengers rushed out into the stream. She was run on the bar opposite Arch Street. The river was full of floating ice to which some who sprang aboard, clung, but still about thirty are dead or missing. They must have perished within three hundred yards of the wharf. The ferry-boat "New Jersey," the one burned, had neither small boats nor life-preservers.

When will human life be sufficiently guarded and respected? Every now and then there is a waking up and a big talk, and in short time the whole thing ceases, and we go on in the old way until some other terrible affair wakes up another convulsive and ineffectual movement. We do not know that the particular parties upon whose works or boats such accidents occur, are particularly blameable. We presume they are about as careful as most in their line; indeed we question if the "New Jersey," the burned steamer, was not about as well supplied with small boats and life-preservers as any other of her class. None of them are so provided. If all reports are correct, the trestle work on the Seaboard Road was as good as trestle work in general, and yet a defect in a tender axle sent it over, from which we suppose the inference is legitimately drawable that any train, on any trestle work is at the mercy of every axle and truck in the train.

The Pacific had a new captain and a new engineer—the Persea, the new crack ship of the Cunard line, was but three days behind her, and betwixt them out on the passage of the two vessels. The track was filled with ice-burgs. These are the unfavorable circumstances which, with the long time since she has been heard of, lead to the melancholy but inevitable conclusion that the gallant ship is gone. By the way, the Philadelphia Ledger has a strange article about this same Collins line, which, if true, ought to be known. Says the Ledger:—

THE COLLINS LINE ENGLISH LINE.—The whips, which has been for years, that the Collins line of steamers was really owned by British capitalists, receives confirmation from the lately published letter of Captain Nye, in which it is more than hinted that the commander of the missing steamer Pacific was placed there by the foreign owners, and against the wishes of Mr. Collins. Even so far back as the winter of '53 and '54, it was stated in Liverpool, says Captain Nye, by a well known English firm, that the Collins steamers were their own property, and that, therefore, they would do with them what they pleased.

Yet this very line, it is well known, has been kept up by appropriations from Congress, on the plea that it was an American one. Nay, these appropriations themselves have been of doubtful constitutionality. It is not improbable, according to Capt. Nye, that the appointment of the commander of the missing ship may have caused the accident to her, for the former chief engineer refused to continue in her after the change—a new and inexperienced one was substituted. The retirement of Captain Nye, who formerly commanded the Pacific, it must be remembered, was voluntary, so that these statements are not the result of spleen.

THE NEW ORLEANS SHERIFF.—Considerable excitement exists in this city in consequence of the refusal of Mr. Hufty, the deposed Sheriff, to vacate the place. Mr. Bell, however, has opened another Sheriff's office, and further proceedings are expected.

## The Clayton-Bulwer Treaty.—Mr. Fillmore's Administration.

We commend the following article from the Norfolk News to the attention of our readers in general, but more especially of those who delight in talking of Mr. Fillmore's as the model administration. The facts stated by our cotemporary cannot be called in question, nor the conclusions drawn from them be regarded as other than sound and legitimate. The real difficulty with England is the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, negotiated by General Taylor's administration, and the British construction of which was tacitly acquiesced in by Mr. Fillmore's, for nearly three years, thus encouraging British pretension, and throwing upon Mr. Pierce the task of vindicating the honor and interests of the country, jeopardized by the bad management and dilatory or timid course of his predecessors. And yet there are those who would throw the blame upon the present administration!

Whether war will ensue from the existing misunderstanding between the United States and England, in relation to the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, it is as yet exceedingly difficult to determine. But certain it is, that there is every evidence of active preparation on the part of Great Britain. We are told by an American late writing from London that "she has such a fleet as no nation ever had before in actual commission—prepared to proceed at a day's notice to America's waters." It is stated, too, in the English papers, that a strong military force will soon be concentrated in Canada. There is an ominous meaning in these movements—a startling significance that should stir the American blood from Maine to Florida.

Our old enemy is awake, and it may be, about to engage in another trial of his strength with us. In the Crimea, England has lost thousands of men and millions of money; the prestige of her prowess has been broken; France has won the medal of peace; Agincourt has been re-enacted, and the fortunes of Wellington at Waterloo have been reversed. And now England is sore in her national pride and sensitive in her national honor. The old lion is wounded, but his spirit is exasperated rather than tamed. The people of England are unequivocally in favor of preserving peace with the United States, but Palmerston, as Premier, seems secretly to burn for war.

The Clayton-Bulwer treaty—the great bone of contention—it is to be feared, will prove a problem of difficult solution. England still stubbornly refuses to accede to the American construction; and this country will, of course, as pertinaciously adhere to the terms of the treaty as understood by Mr. Clayton. What will be the result? The entire treaty must be annulled; there must be concession on one side, or the other, or war must inevitably ensue. And apropos of this vexed question, it is probably not known to everybody, that this misapprehension of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, owes its origin, in a great measure, to the timid, temporizing policy of the Fillmore administration. The ratifications of the treaty were exchanged on the same day that General Taylor was borne to the chamber of death. Millard Fillmore immediately succeeded to the Presidency, and is admitted to have made no demand for enforcement of the terms of the treaty on the part of England, that government of course construed silence into assent, and very reasonably adopted Mr. Bulwer's construction as that understood and endorsed by the United States. It, therefore, remained for the Pierce administration to open the eyes of the English ministry to the fact, that the British government had not acted up to its stipulations. Had the Fillmore administration not allowed its question to sleep so long, there would probably have been but little difficulty in adjusting it. As it is, it is not improbable that the God of Battles will decide it.

Is our country in condition to repel such a navy and such an army as England can transport to our coast in a few days? Are we prepared for the war of battle? Is every city upon the sea-coast safe against the enemy? These are grave questions, and they can but be answered in the negative. There are those who would advise us to raise recruits every out, let the javelin fly; let war be declared with England, and in a twinkling of an eye we would be ready to receive the shock. To some extent this is true; but let it be remembered that time and distance are almost virtually annihilated now, and in that same twinkling of an eye the Baltic fleet of England might be riding in Hampton Roads. Our whole standing army would be barely sufficient to garrison Fort Mifflin, and our militia, as a rule, recruits would make but poor engineers. We are invincible, it is true, but we are not invulnerable. And in the event of a war with England at this juncture, our sea-coast would sorely suffer. While the contest in the Crimea has crippled England in one point of view, it has strengthened her in another. She has lost men and money; but her troops have the advantages of experience and practice, and a third of her army is now in the field. The British fleet has been upon a daily drill upon the field of battle for two years past, while we have been amateur spectators of the scene. It must be remembered, therefore, that she is prepared while we are not; she takes aim while we are making ready. There is more unity of action, more promptitude and celerity in the military movements of monarchical governments than in republics. There will be the motive power; here the people must approve.

It is to be earnestly hoped, however, that the tardiness and timidity of the model (Fillmore) administration, instead of precipitating the two countries into a war, which would be disastrous to both, will result in establishing a fair understanding between them through the agency of its present prompt and spirited successor.

## Millard Fillmore's Platform against Secret Societies.

Millard Fillmore commenced his political career in 1827, as an Anti Mason. In 1828 he was the Anti-Masonic nominee for the Assembly from Erie county. The convention which nominated him was held in Buffalo, and was the first of the kind. That convention issued an address which, according to the Buffalo Courier, contained the following propositions against Secret Societies. We commend them to the attention of all of Masons and Know Nothings:

1. "That a large body of our citizens who do not belong to the order are mysteriously influenced by those who do."
2. "We earnestly believe the spirit of Masonry (secret societies) to be essentially opposed to the security of the citizens, to the impartial administration of the laws, and to a due reverence to religion."
3. "The institution is at war with the spirit of our free government, hostile to all equality of rights, and an impassable barrier to the administration of justice."
4. "The equality of rights which the Constitution expressly guarantees cannot exist while a Secret Society shelters its members, and the ascendancy of law and good order cannot be maintained in a community while an extensive and an influential body of men claim and exercise the power of imposing and enforcing obligations which must often come into direct collision with the laws and duties of society."
5. "None so secret constitutions the only weapon with which the strong hold of Masonry (secret societies) can be assailed, and this engine, if properly directed, will prove sufficient to battle down its bulwarks, and expose to the gaze and derision of the world the mystic mummery with which it has shrouded its deceitful and detestable principles."
6. "It is vain to temporize and palter with our duty. If we wish to destroy the baneful influence of Masonry (secret societies) we must withhold our vote from those who support it. We frankly acknowledge that in some cases personal and political friendship render this duty painful and difficult to perform, but, as honest and faithful citizens, we are bound to sacrifice our predilections for individuals to the safety and success of the important principles we have espoused, and why should we startle at a measure in defense of our rights, which our opponents have successfully used to usurp them? They are bound by oath 'to vote for a brother before any person of equal qualifications,' and 'to support his military and political preference in opposition to another.'"

It is not necessary in self-defense to resist this alarming conspiracy? Can we shut our eyes to the fact that the ambitious and designing men have attached themselves to this institution to obtain preferment of which they were undeserving? When it shall become well established that Masonry (secret societies) have ceased to afford its superior advantages for political objects, the great inducement that now sustains the institution will be lost.

Important from Kansas. Sr. Louis, March 17.—Advices from Kansas state that the Free State officers were about being arrested by the Federal authorities.

## For the Journal.

THOS. M. GARDNER, Esq.: DEAR SIR:—It has been my desire for some time to address a few remarks to those gentlemen who were formerly members of the Democratic party, but who now are members of the Know-Nothing party, and who having presided over the late Know-Nothing ratification meeting, I will use you as an organ for accomplishing my purpose. Every party, whether it be Know-Nothing, or Democratic, or Whig, there are at least two divisions. One honest and conscientious, the other selfish and corrupt. The former fully realizing the importance of its mission; the latter making that mission a cloak under which personal interest is to be advanced. My feelings prompt me to place you in the first class as it respects your connection with Know-Nothingism. I believe that you were induced to join that order, or party, (if it is worthy of that name) by cunning appeals to your religious fears and apprehensions. You were made to believe that our country was about to be inundated with foreigners, who would have power to overturn the Protestant religion and substitute the tyranny, the oppression, the superstition of the Roman Catholic Church. This is true of you and a few others, but the majority of the Democrats who still adhere to Know-Nothingism, can have no such compliments at my hand. Base selfishness has ruled them. They wanted office. The Democratic party withheld its confidence from them, and they, out of revenge, swore its destruction. Such cattle is the bane of any party. Their exodus from Democracy was a blessing to it. It is not to this class I would say a word. But of your class I would enquire if you have not been the dupes of the cunning appeal above referred to. Why, and wherefore, did you quit the Democratic party? Doubtless, you were sincere in your former advocacy of its principles. Have any of these great and inestimable principles lost their virtue? Are they not of the same vital importance now as heretofore? Then why have you discarded them? It will not answer for you to say, that the old issues which formerly divided the parties are now long since settled. The cant sounds very well coming from the mouth of one who would deceive, but it should never be uttered by you. The allegation is false in fact.

I will omit all allusion to a high protective Tariff—to a National Bank—to the specie-papier, Independent Treasury. Though no one in his senses would deny, but if the Know-Nothing party should obtain the control of the legislation of the country, that their old schemes would be revived and put in force. But I will omit them, and to show the falsity of the allegation, will call your attention to one great issue which will never die, which can never lose its importance, and must always divide the Democratic party from the Consolidation party, under whatever name it may exist. It is the use of the veto power. This is the great, the conservative power placed in the hands of the President for the protection of the people. It is emphatically, *The People's Power*. The power of the people, it never has, it never can be used but for this protective purpose.

Now, sir, as President of their late meeting, I ask you, what is the policy of the Know-Nothing party, respecting the exercise of this power? What is the present opinion of your candidate, Mr. Fillmore, on this point? I say present, for the reason that, when last a candidate, he, and a large majority of those who now support him, opposed its exercise, denounced it as "the one man power," which should be stricken from the Constitution. The denunciation of this power, in the Taylor and Fillmore campaign, was the unfailing staple of "anti-Democratic thunder." I have seen no recantation of Mr. Fillmore's opinions. His party friends now indeed "sing low," but have they given you any proof of a change of their opinions? Or have they made a convert of you, and do you now approve of what you formerly condemned? If the latter proposition is true, your conversion is most ill-timed. In the alarming crisis, which is fast approaching, the only hope of safety for the South is in the Presidential veto. The "Northern allies of your party," the Black Republicans, have now a majority in the House of Representatives. The Democracy of the Senate may, and will for a season, stay their ruthless hands, but if they succeed in destroying the predominance of Democracy in that body, where can the South look for safety, for protection, but to the use of the veto power? Yet this power you would strike from the constitution. To put this matter in a clear light, would not Mr. Fillmore, if elected President, be compelled to approve of any bill which Congress might pass, if it was, in his opinion, constitutional. To put a case: Mr. Fillmore has declared that Congress has power not only to abolish the slave-trade, but to abolish slavery itself, in the territories of the United States. Should Congress pass a bill for the above purpose, would not Mr. Fillmore approve of it? Could he do otherwise, with his notions of the veto? I know that his friends repose great confidence in his honesty, his uprightness; but these high qualities, however transcendently he may possess them, would bring the South no safety, no protection. We will want the powerfulegis of the veto, and this will be compelled by his constitutional scruples, to withhold from us.

I have thrown out these suggestions for you to ponder on, and as a patriot, a friend of the South, let me beseech you to ponder on them well, to think well, before you assist in elevating to the Presidency a man who, in the supposed emergency, can do you no good, but may do you much harm. The old heads, who reported the resolutions adopted at your late meeting, well knowing of this objection to Mr. Fillmore's elevation, by an "anti-Democratic" crisis, it goes by. If they felt confident of his soundness on this subject, if they felt assured that he would, by the use of the veto, protect us from the assaults of our Northern foes, why did they not say so? This letter has spun out so much longer than I expected, that I must reserve the balance of my suggestions for another time. BLACK RIVER.

## The New Hampshire Election.

The Providence Post says: "Our Democratic friends in the Granite State have done nobly. They have not elected their candidate for governor; but instead of wanting ten thousand votes of an election, as last year, he has undoubtedly received a larger vote than Metcalf, the free-soil and know-nothing candidate. The immense majority against us in the legislature has been reduced to a mere handful—perhaps to nothing. Enough has been done to make it certain that the State will be governed by a triumphant majority in the presidential contest."

The Boston Post of Thursday says: "The Democracy have made a noble struggle, and covered themselves with honor, though we fear they have not quite succeeded in rescuing the government of the State from the incompetent hands that seized upon it in the hue and cry of last year. When we remember that there was an opposition of OVER TEN THOUSAND to one in the popular vote, and that the achievements of the democrats, rather than chagrined that they have not won a complete victory. A gain of SEVEN or EIGHT THOUSAND votes, and the reduction of the ponderous fusion majority in the legislature to almost nothing, are sufficient evidence of the recuperative energies of our party, and PROOF that, in November, New Hampshire will cast her vote for the nominee of the Cincinnati Convention, and take her place again among the stars on the Union flag."

"Honor and gratitude, we say, to Mr. Wells for his arduous exertions in addressing his fellow-citizens during the canvass, and to the other speakers who have assisted him; to the press, also, and all who have dissipated the truth, by which the errors of sham Americanism and false republicanism have been scattered to the winds."

"The hypocritical Metcalf and his mongrel associates may, perhaps, linger around the capital for another year, but they are struck with political palsy. In November they will catch another shock, and in 1857 the finishing stroke will be given to the banded factions."

HARNETT COUNTY.—We learn from the Carolinian that the County Court of Harnett, last week, refused to lay a tax to repay the \$2,000 paid by the Treasurer of Public Buildings to the Contractor. Things must remain in statu quo till the Superior Court decides the Harnett case.

The tax laid for county purposes was 50 cents on the \$100 value of real estate, and \$1 30 on the poll. Geo. W. Pegram, R. C. Belden, and John Green, Esquires, were elected Special Court for the ensuing year.

THE NACAGUAGA LINE. NEW YORK, March 18.—The Nacaguaga Line of steamships has been rechartered, in consequence of L. WALKER'S conduct.

## For the Journal.

According to previous notice, a meeting of the Democratic party of Columbus county was held at Whiteville, on the 15th inst., which was organized by Calvin Haynes, Esq., being called to the Chair, and T. L. Vail and A. J. Butler requested to act as Secretaries.

The object of the meeting having been explained, viz: The appointment of delegates to Raleigh, in order to nominate a Democratic candidate for Governor, and the selection of delegates to assemble at Whiteville on the 7th of April next, for the purpose of making choice of a Senatorial candidate. The Chairman appointed Messrs. F. George, J. C. Powell, W. H. Toon, J. M. Powell, and J. H. Summerson, to draft resolutions for the meeting. After a short absence the Committee returned, and through their Chairman, F. George, Esq., reported the subjoined resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we approve of Raleigh as the place, and the 10th of April as the time of holding a Democratic State Convention, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Governor in the ensuing gubernatorial canvass.

Resolved, That the Chairman appoint twenty-five delegates to represent the county of Columbus in said Convention.

Resolved, That we concur with our friends of Brunswick county in the propriety of holding a District Convention composed of delegates from Bladen, Brunswick, and Columbus, at Whiteville, on the 7th of April next, for the purpose of nominating a Democratic candidate for Senator, to represent this district at the ensuing session of the Legislature.

Resolved, That the Chairman appoint fourteen delegates to represent this county in said Convention.

Resolved, That the Democratic party is the only one which can justly lay claim to nationality in sentiment and action; that to this party alone the country can look with any reasonable expectation that its best interests will be promoted, by preserving the Constitution intact, respecting the sovereign rights of the States, and thus perpetuating their Union.

Resolved, That President Pierce, by his bold, able and patriotic administration of the affairs of State, at home and abroad, has proved himself eminently worthy of the confidence of the American people as their chief executive; that his patriotism is not limited within sectional lines and boundaries, but is large enough to embrace our whole country, North, South, East and West, and that in his recent clear and elegant messages to Congress, he has pointed out people to their true constitutional duties, and called upon them in the language of patriotic earnestness, to act in good faith towards one another.

Resolved, That the Democratic party of this State have reason to be proud of their present able and patriotic Governor; that his course has been such throughout, as to command the confidence of his fellow-citizens, and, therefore, he is our first-choice for standard-bearer in the ensuing gubernatorial canvass.

In accordance with the above resolutions, the Chairman appointed 25 delegates to represent this county in the Democratic State Convention, to be held at Raleigh on the 10th of April next, viz: Messrs. F. George, W. H. Toon, W. A. Dyson, Lewis G. Colman, Col. M. Powell, Nathaniel McKelvey, Lewis Williams, R. V. Williams, J. H. Summerson, W. H. Powell, D. F. Williams, Jas. Ennis, M. D. Godwin, W. J. Stanly, Everett Hinson, John Mills, Jr., J. H. Gore, P. J. Penney, W. K. Gore, J. P. Lee, Jas. Beach, C. C. Gore, J. C. Pierce, Warren Hayes, and J. W. Rouse. On motion, the Chairman and Secretaries were added to the above delegation.

To attend the Senatorial District Convention, the Chairman nominated 14 delegates, viz: Messrs. F. George, W. H. Toon, T. L. Vail, W. Brown, J. G. Powell, D. F. Williams, W. J. Stanly, John Mears, John H. Gore, W. K. Gore, J. P. Morgendy, J. M. M. Gore, A. J. Baldwin, and J. F. Morgan Heigh.

F. George, Esq., was then called for, and responded in a brief and pointed address, which was received with marked satisfaction by the meeting. He alluded to the proud position occupied by the Democratic party as the only one that was truly constitutional and national, and going back to the early political history of the country, he showed, with those to whom of right it belonged. He rapidly sketched the turns and manœuvres—the false professions and shifting expedients of Whiggery, and finally, as some had truly said, "died of man corruption," and was within the last few years attempted to be raised again under a new form and a new name, that of Know-Nothingism. He then touched upon the nominees of that party, Fillmore and Donelson. Why, he asked, should Mr. Fillmore be the hero of Southern people? Was it that, when the Fugitive Slave Law was passed, so much doubt hung around his mind about the propriety of it, that he consulted the Attorney-General to its constitutionality? And in concluding, he observed that not until a thoroughly organized Democratic party got complete ascendancy, would sectional strife cease and the voice of disunion be hushed in the land.

It was then moved that the proceedings be sent to the Wilmington Journal with the request to publish. On motion of Col. M. Powell, the meeting adjourned.

C. HAYNES, Chairman.  
T. L. VAIL, A. J. BUTLER, Secretaries.

## The New Hampshire Election.